Upgradation of Ahmedabad and Surat Airports

1522. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state;

(a) whether Ahmedabad Airport has been upgraded;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Surat Airport has also been developed; and

(d) if so, the extend to which the burden of air traffic at Mumbai Airport has reduced?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN):(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport at Ahmedabad has been developed and upgraded for international operations. The Works completed are construction of terminal building for a capacity of 400 passengers at domestic and 500 passengers at international terminals, extension and strengthening of runway from 9000 ft. to 11000 ft. extensnon and strengthening of apron, strengthening of existing taxi-track, development of a car park, installation of Cat-I lighting system and associated works.

(c) Surat Airport belongs to the State Government of Gujarat. State Government has plans to develop this airport in phases for operation Airbus AB-320 class of Aircraft.

(d) There has been no appreciable shift in the air traffic from Mumbai International Airport to the Ahmedabad International Airport after upgradation of Ahmedabad Airport in May,. 2000.

Operational Airports in Rajasthan

1523. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of airports alongwith their names in Rajasthan;

(b) the airports out of wese, which are not in working conditions and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to open more airports for small aircraft to increase tourism flow in the State?